

CLAIMS

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent of the United States is:

- 1 1. A method of processing calls in an aggregate telecommunications network having
2 at least two sub networks, comprising the steps of:
3 creating a set of decision criteria, applied in said first of said at least two sub
4 networks, that determine which calls entering said first of said at least two subnetworks should
5 receive service processing in said second of said at least two sub networks;
6 for calls that are to receive service processing in said second subnetwork, guiding
7 those calls to that subnetwork ;
8 invoking service processing by said second of said at least two sub networks
9 based on information provided to it with the call or on the particular or type of incoming trunk or
10 transmission pipe the call comes in on.
- 1 2. A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
2 providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided
3 from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is sufficient for causing the invocation
4 of service processing in the second subnetwork.

1 3. A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
2 providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided
3 from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for supporting service processing in the
4 second subnetwork.

1 4. A method as in claim 2 wherein said associated information for invoking service
2 processing comprises:
3 information selected from the group of routing number, original dialed number,
4 an explicit trigger or a combination thereof.

1 5. A method as in claim 1 wherein said associated information for supporting service
2 processing is selected from the group of information available to the first subnetwork calling
3 party number, original dialed number, routing number, charge number, Originating Line
4 Information, Customer ID, or a combination thereof.

1 6. A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
2 targeting a specific element or type of element within said second subnetwork of
3 said at least two sub networks to invoke service processing for the call.

1 7. A method as in claim 6 where the selection of the specific element or type of
2 element within said second subnetwork may be based on the location of the origination of the
3 call into the first said subnetwork.

1 8. A method as in claim 1 wherein said decision criteria is selected from at least one
2 of the group of :

3 service type, features potentially applicable within a given service type, called
4 party number, original dialed number, an ID of a switch in said first of said at least two sub
5 networks, how close the ingress switch in said first subnetwork is in terms of some proximity
6 measure to said second subnetwork, the identity or type of the particular trunk group over which
7 the call entered said first of said at least two subnetworks, the ANI of the call, the calling party
8 number of the call, the current load allocation of the first of said at least two sub networks, the
9 current load allocation of the second of said at least two sub networks, the existence of a
10 qualifying routing plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at least two
11 subnetworks, an on/off toggle administrable from a work center, the type of service processor
12 requires to handle the call or a combination thereof.

1 9. A method as in Claim 1 wherein the guidance of calls to the second subnetwork
2 is responsive to a routing number, a pseudo CIC code, other routing information or a
3 combination thereof.

- 1 10. A method as in Claim 6 further comprising:
2 identifying qualified Routing Plans and using said qualified plans in said decision
3 step wherein the provisioning system responsible for installing Routing Plans as part of service
4 logic examines each plan to determine its eligibility for service processing in the second
5 subnetwork.